

Amendments to the claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-15 (Cancelled).

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing a compound, which is a hydrate of 5-[4-[2-(N-methyl-N-(2-pyridyl)amino)ethoxy]benzyl]-thiazolidine-2,4-dione, maleic acid salt, said process comprising crystallizing a maleic acid salt of 5-[4-[2-(N-methyl-N-(2-pyridyl)amino)ethoxy]benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione from an aqueous alkanolic solvent selected from the group consisting of aqueous denatured ethanol, aqueous isopropanol and mixtures thereof,

wherein said compound contains water in the range of from 0.2 to 1.1% w/w and said compound provides at least one of:

- (i) an infra red spectrum containing peaks at 764 and 579 cm^{-1} ; and
- (ii) an X-ray powder diffraction pattern substantially in accordance with Figure II.

Claim 17 (Cancelled):

Claim 18 (Previously presented): A process according to claim 16, wherein the aqueous alkanolic solvent contains from 2% to 2.5% of water by volume.

Claim 19 (Previously presented): A process according to claim 16, wherein the aqueous alkanolic solvent contains from 2% to 2.3% of water by volume.

Claim 20 (Previously presented): A process according to claim 16, wherein the aqueous alkanolic solvent contains 2.1% of water by volume.

Claims 21-22 (Cancelled).

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): A process ~~according to claim 16, for preparing a~~ compound, which is a hydrate of 5-[4-[2-(N-methyl-N-(2-pyridyl)amino)ethoxy]benzyl]-thiazolidine-2,4-dione, maleic acid salt, said process comprising crystallizing a maleic acid salt of 5-[4-[2-(N-methyl-N-(2-pyridyl)amino)ethoxy]benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione from an aqueous alkanolic solvent selected from the group consisting of aqueous denatured ethanol, aqueous isopropanol and mixtures thereof,

wherein said compound contains water in the range of from 0.2 to 1.1% w/w and said compound, in a mineral oil dispersion, provides an infra red spectrum substantially in accordance with Figure I.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): A process ~~according to claim 16, for preparing a~~ compound, which is a hydrate of 5-[4-[2-(N-methyl-N-(2-pyridyl)amino)ethoxy]benzyl]-thiazolidine-2,4-dione, maleic acid salt, said process comprising crystallizing a maleic acid salt of 5-[4-[2-(N-methyl-N-(2-pyridyl)amino)ethoxy]benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione from an aqueous alkanolic solvent selected from the group consisting of aqueous denatured ethanol, aqueous isopropanol and mixtures thereof,

_____ wherein said compound contains water in the range of from 0.2 to 1.1% w/w and said compound provides an X-ray powder diffraction pattern is substantially in accordance with in Figure II.